

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 3636 – SB 3588

March 13, 2012

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (014012): Deletes all language after the enacting clause. Defines “parent” as the parent, guardian, or person who has custody of the child or individual who has care-giving authority under Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3001. Encourages local education agencies to develop voluntary parental involvement contracts for parents and students. Requires the Department of Education to develop a model parental involvement contract that LEAs may use. Requires the model contract to include language committing a parent to review homework assignments and offer assistance when needed; sign report cards; make sure that their student gets to school on time and ready to learn; demonstrate interest in their student’s well being by attending school functions and activities; and make every effort to attend parent-teacher conferences. The contract shall also include a way for the parent to explain obstacles that may prevent the parent from complying with contract provisions. If an explanation of obstacles is given, then school employees shall consider accessing resources that will help the parent overcome the obstacle. Requires each LEA that develops and implements parental contracts to submit a copy of their contract to the Department of Education (DOE). LEAs shall also report to DOE, the number and percentage of parents that sign parental involvement contracts in each class by May 1 each year. Requires the DOE to include this data in its annual report card.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions applied to amendment:

- The DOE will develop the model parental contract and disseminate it to the LEAs without an increase in personnel or a reduction in other budget items. Any increase in state expenditures for this requirement will be not significant.
- DOE shall include parental involvement contract data in the annual report card without a significant increase in programming expenditures.

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- LEAs may develop and implement parental contracts without a significant increase in permissive local expenditures. Any development will be done with existing personnel and LEA resources.
- Any increase in permissive local expenditures for LEAs to direct parents to appropriate agencies or other means of assistance in overcoming contract obstacles will be not significant.
- Any increase in permissive local expenditures to send parental contract data to the DOE will be not significant and will be included in other data that LEAs currently send to DOE.
- LEAs are not required to implement such contracts and parents are not required to take parenting classes or perform some other service as a result of contract non-compliance. The participation of parents or guardians is entirely voluntary.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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